

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/EP 03/07430

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B22D11/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B22D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

WPI Data, PAJ, EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 450 775 A (LYSAGHT AUSTRALIA LTD ; ISHIKAWAJIMA HARIMA HEAVY IND (JP)) 9 October 1991 (1991-10-09) cited in the application abstract column 3, line 42 -column 8, line 20; figures 1-6	1,10
A	EP 0 947 261 A (BHP STEEL JLA PTY LTD ; ISHIKAWAJIMA HARIMA HEAVY IND (JP)) 6 October 1999 (1999-10-06) cited in the application claims 1,2; figures 1-8	1
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

*** Special categories of cited documents :**

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

23 January 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

30/01/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mailliard, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/07430

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 03, 28 April 1995 (1995-04-28) & JP 06 335753 A (MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND LTD; OTHERS: 01), 6 December 1994 (1994-12-06) cited in the application abstract	1
A	DE 100 57 876 C (BOLLIG G.) 23 May 2002 (2002-05-23) paragraphs '0046!-'0049!; figure 1	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/07430

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0450775	A	09-10-1991	AT 153573 T	15-06-1997
			AU 631728 B2	03-12-1992
			AU 7289791 A	10-10-1991
			BR 9101329 A	26-11-1991
			CA 2039662 A1	05-10-1991
			CN 1055311 A ,B	16-10-1991
			DE 69126229 D1	03-07-1997
			DK 450775 T3	30-06-1997
			EP 0450775 A2	09-10-1991
			ES 2103775 T3	01-10-1997
			GR 3024486 T3	28-11-1997
			IN 174659 A1	28-01-1995
			IN 182792 A1	24-07-1999
			JP 3375142 B2	10-02-2003
			JP 6339753 A	13-12-1994
			KR 210519 B1	15-07-1999
			NZ 237557 A	23-12-1992
			US 5184668 A	09-02-1993
			US 5277243 A	11-01-1994
EP 0947261	A	06-10-1999	AU 739603 B2	18-10-2001
			AU 8424498 A	01-04-1999
			AU 737788 B2	30-08-2001
			AU 8518598 A	01-04-1999
			AU 737844 B2	30-08-2001
			AU 8519998 A	01-04-1999
			CA 2246900 A1	18-03-1999
			CN 1213594 A ,B	14-04-1999
			DE 69813424 D1	22-05-2003
			DE 69814542 D1	18-06-2003
			EP 0903190 A2	24-03-1999
			EP 0903191 A2	24-03-1999
			EP 0947261 A2	06-10-1999
			ID 21047 A	08-04-1999
			JP 11156493 A	15-06-1999
			JP 11156494 A	15-06-1999
			JP 11156495 A	15-06-1999
			TW 448080 B	01-08-2001
			US 6164366 A	26-12-2000
			US 6167942 B1	02-01-2001
			US 6167943 B1	02-01-2001
			US 6397924 B1	04-06-2002
JP 06335753	A	06-12-1994	NONE	
DE 10057876	C	23-05-2002	DE 10057876 C1	23-05-2002